



### Plan Now for Audubon's October Picnic

by Jim Holsen

St. Louis Audubon's fall picnic, held in September last year, will be held this year on Sunday, October 19, from 2 to 8 pm, at the Freund Center, Shaw Arboretum, in Gray Summit, Missouri. All Audubon members are invited to share the splendors of an autumn day in the Ozark foothills. Fall colors should be at their best in mid-October.

Dinner will begin at about 5:30 pm, but come early and hike to the prairie or other favorite spots. Last year we enjoyed an evening stroll around the nearby wetlands, at dusk after dinner.

As before, Audubon will furnish the meat (hamburgers, hot dogs, or chicken). Members should bring a side dish or dessert to share with others.

Watch the October newsletter for directions and final details, but hold this date open now.

### October Trip to Chautauqua Should be Waterfowl Extravaganza

by Jim Malone

Late in October, the leaves are changing, a chill is in the air, and the southward migration of waterfowl through the Midwest is in full swing. During this migration thousands of ducks, geese, and swans pass through on their way to warmer winter locales, stopping at favorite locations along the way to congregate with others of their kind and relax before continuing their long journey.

St. Louis Audubon has planned an October weekend trip to Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge along the Illinois River to view this migration spectacle! We will be meeting the refuge manager on Saturday morning (October 25) for a guided tour of the facility. It is likely that we will see tremendous numbers of pintails, black ducks, common and hooded mergansers, mallards, goldeneyes, Canada geese, and snow geese, and even trumpeter and tundra swans are possible. This time of year should also provide opportunities for hawk watching and possible sightings of bald eagles

moving in for the winter. On Sunday, we will visit the Meridosia Refuge farther down the Illinois River for a look at another productive site for fall waterfowl. Then we will return to St. Louis through the rolling Illinois countryside and along the river road north of Alton. This should prove to be a great weekend of birding and fall sightseeing!

In 1936 Chautauqua was established to create protected habitat for nesting wood ducks. Over the years, the wood duck numbers have rebounded, and the refuge shifted its management efforts to support migrating waterfowl moving down the Mississippi Flyway. Apparently, the refuge has done something right since in the fall of 1994 record numbers of birds were seen at Chautauqua, with 375,000 ducks and 62,000 geese appearing in 1 of the pools. The refuge is composed of 4,500 acres, containing 2 water impoundments. One pool is drained in the summer to allow growth of plant life, then flooded in the fall to serve as food for migrating dabbling ducks, geese, and swans. The other pool is deeper and stocked with fish for diving ducks and grebes.

Havana, Illinois, the closest town to Chautauqua, offers us a number of choices for the weekend's food and lodging and is about 3 1/2 hours from St. Louis by car (mostly interstate driving). If this weekend trip sounds like the get-away you need this fall, send \$5 with your name and address to reserve a space on the trip. In return, we will provide you with an information package detailing lodging options, food available, and a more detailed account of our trip itinerary. Send your reservations to:

**Jim Malone**  
15424 Elk Ridge Lane  
Chesterfield, MO 63017

For more information about this trip, call Jim Malone at H# 536-1119. We hope to see you there!

### 1997-98 Birding Trips Include New Sites and Old Favorites

by Jim Malone

Last year's calendar of birding trips included outings at reliable, well known locations and a few great spots that were new to most of us. The variety and number of trips we had last year was a hard act to follow, but the 1997-98 calendar of birding events contains even more variety in sites and excursions out of the immediate St. Louis area.

This year, we are offering a balance of trips on Saturdays and Sundays, most of which will be finished by mid-day. Each of these outings will involve small to moderate amounts of walking at a relaxed pace, and we will do our best to help each participant see every bird. We will be making more extensive trips to Horseshoe Lake in southern Illinois, taking advantage of the expanded viewing opportunities allowed by the completion of a new road which nearly surrounds the lake. We have also included a spring outing at Castlewood Park in western St. Louis County to look at migrating warblers and early nesters along the Meramec River.

The balance of our "in-town" schedule this year consists of trips to some of the best, well known sites in the area like the Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area near Alton, Illinois, Busch Conservation Area in St. Charles County, Kennedy Woods at Forest Park, and the Shaw Arboretum in Gray Summit.

Thanks to your enthusiastic response to our Mingo trip earlier this spring (see Mingo story on page 7), we have scheduled 3 "out-of-town" events for the coming year. Day trips to Carlyle Lake in Illinois and Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area in the middle of Missouri are scheduled to offer good mixtures of shorebirds, waterfowl, gulls, and passerines.

*Continued on page 7*

### In This Issue

|                                       |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Audubon October Picnic .....          | page 1 |
| October Trip to Chautauqua NWR ..     | page 1 |
| 1997-98 Audubon Events Calendar ..... | Insert |

|                                  |        |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| All About Hummingbirds .....     | page 4 |
| Bird Seed Order Form .....       | page 5 |
| Audubon Adventures Order Form .. | page 6 |
| Good Birding Locations .....     | page 6 |



## From Your President

by Jim Holsen

### Missouri Audubon Council Meets in September

The Missouri Audubon Council, representing the 14 Audubon Societies in Missouri, will hold its fall meeting at Camp Clover Point, Lake of the Ozarks State Park, on Sunday, September 28. The Audubon Society of Missouri meets at the same location on September 26, 27, and 28.

The Missouri Audubon Council coordinates matters of statewide interest including, during the spring months, our legislative liaison activities in Jefferson City. At this meeting we may expect to learn something about National Audubon's response to the Council's proposal for a Missouri Audubon state office. The proposal, submitted in mid-summer, provides for a large measure of local control and selection of priorities. It had been anticipated that we would be looking for an executive director by early fall. This is an exciting time for Missouri Audubon Societies.

To obtain a copy of the detailed program and a map with directions for the Audubon Society of Missouri meeting, call Paul Bauer at H# 921-3972. For information on the Missouri Audubon Council meeting, call Mary Dueren at H# 576-1473.

### Local Taxidermist Dies

by Bill Brandhorst

Paul C. Schwarz passed away May 28. Paul and his son, Carl, are responsible for the St. Louis Audubon Society's collection of mounted birds.

Their company, Schwarz Studio, Inc., was started by Paul's grandfather in 1882 and is the oldest taxidermy studio in the United States. Carl is the fourth generation, and he has another one, Benjamin Paul, at home. Paul's wife, Martha, an artist, did the art work when needed.

Back in the 1920's, Paul's Great Uncle Hermann Schwarz sold me the equipment for mounting insects so that I could participate in the WGNSS insect collecting contests, which Marshall Magner also entered. About that time, the Schwarzes removed a half dozen cecropia moth cocoons from the maple trees in south St. Louis. Each winter there must have been many

hundreds out there until the starlings came. The moths reached me through my father. Seeing the moths emerge helped to solidify my interest in insect collecting.

A few years ago Paul said to me, "Bill, I know you well, and I can tell you that you don't 'stuff' a bird or fish, you 'mount' it." This is a message from Paul I pass along now.

Without Paul and Carl, I doubt if St. Louis Audubon would have its bird collection today. Happily, Carl does a great job.

To show our respect for Paul, the St. Louis Audubon Society is naming 1 of the summer ecology camp scholarships after him.

### Join Operation Clean Stream Efforts

by Jerry Castillon

Once again the St. Louis Audubon Society is helping out with this very worthwhile annual event, scheduled for Saturday, August 23. Most of us love to spend time canoeing on the river. On this particular day, we help clean it as we cruise down it.

Our group will be cleaning the section of the Meramec River from Pacific Palisades down to the Allenton access. This section is about 4 to 5 miles. We start about 8 or 8:30 in the morning and usually are out of the river by 1 pm. There are usually hotdogs and sodas for participants at several parks along the river for those wishing to end with a little picnic.

We would like to have you join us. We have some extra canoes, but they are going fast. Hopefully, you may have access to others. Make it a family event or come on your own. It's a great way to spend a Saturday in August.

To obtain more information and to sign up, call the coordinators Jerry Castillon, H# 391-7586, or Arthur Montgomery, H# 822-1215.

### Order Your Bird Seed Now!

by Sue Smith

This calendar year, St. Louis Audubon will be offering 1 bird seed sale. The date is October 25 at the Wild Bird Center at 9815 Watson Road in Crestwood.

The chapter uses profits from this sale for our educational activities. We appreciate the support of the members who have purchased seed from sales in the past years. If you have never purchased your winter seed from Audubon, we encourage you to do so.

Since we are having only 1 sale this year, we advise you to stock up with a good winter supply. Thank you for your support. The bird seed order form is located on page 5.

## Get to Know

### ... Jim Malone

*(This is the eighteenth in a series of articles written about and by St. Louis Audubon board members themselves so that all our membership can be better acquainted with our decision makers on the board.)*

I guess I have been involved in outdoor activities all of my life. While growing up in central Illinois, my brother and I would always go camping, hiking, or fishing near home. When I was in college, I still went on many hiking and camping trips, including several backpacking trips in the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee. I suppose it was on some of these early outings that I developed an interest in observing the wildlife of these areas as a part of the natural beauty.

Before coming to St. Louis, my wife, Charlene, and I lived in Phoenix, Arizona, where we spent time in the deserts and mountains of the region whenever we could. It almost seems strange to me that we never became birders years ago, but once the impulse took hold, it has become a pastime that we never seem to have enough time for.

I think one of the first occasions when we realized that we were getting hooked on birding was during the flood of 1993. On weekends, we got a bit stir crazy and went for drives around the St. Louis area, amazed at the magnitude of the destruction caused by all of that water. It was interesting to note, however, that 1 group of animals that seemed to benefit from the extended periods of high water were the ever increasing numbers of tall, graceful egrets that we saw in the flooded fields, banks, and ditches. Somewhere in the midst of these excursions, we began taking along a pair of old binoculars, and before we knew it, we weren't looking at the water as much because we were too busy trying to identify the new birds we were seeing.

Since that time, we have spent many wonderful hours watching the changing seasons move these brightly colored little marvels in and out of our area, and like most birders, we have developed an awareness of the special needs these animals have that man is often destroying to clear farmland and to build homes and shopping centers in ever expanding numbers.

I joined the board of the St. Louis Audubon Society with the hope that maybe we could do something locally to help educate people about the continuing loss of habitat critical to the survival of these animals. I like to think that maybe some of the outings we provide throughout the year will stimulate the same feelings in others and that we may be able to find ways to get along without destroying the world around us.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Audubon Birding Trips

Bring binoculars, bird field guide, & dress for field conditions & weather. Coaching & instruction for all levels. For confirmation & more information, call trip leaders Paul Bauer (H# 921-3972) or Jim Malone (H# 536-1119).

**Tower Grove Park** — *Sunday, September 7*, at 8 am. In St. Louis City. Take I-44 or I-64 east to south on Kingshighway. Go about 1 mile to left on Magnolia. Park on street; walk to brushy area (Gaddy Bird Garden) at NW corner of park. Come out & try your hand at identifying migrating fall warblers & passerines!

**Riverlands** — *Saturday, September 27*, at 8 am. In St. Charles Co. near Alton, IL. Take Hwy 367 north of I-270, across Missouri River to right on last road before Mississippi River. Go east from gas station; turn right on 1<sup>st</sup> road to Teal Pond parking lot. See the best in waterfowl, shorebirds, & raptors--always something interesting!

**Carlyle Lake** — *Sunday, October 5*, at 8 am. Meet at Horseshoe Lake to carpool to Carlyle Lake in Illinois. To get to Horseshoe, take I-55/70 east of St. Louis to north on Hwy 111. Go through park entrance to HQ building. Look for shorebirds, waterfowl, & gulls.

**Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge** — *Saturday & Sunday, October 25 & 26*, at 8 am. We will meet with refuge manager & tour refuge; a wide variety of ducks, geese, swans, hawks, & eagles should be present in inspiring numbers! See related article on page 1.

## Audubon-Related Activities

**Missouri Environmental Fund Meetings** — *Saturdays, September 20 & December 6*. For more info., call Jerry Klamon at 771-6668.

**Audubon Society of Missouri Fall Meeting** — *Friday - Sunday, September 26-28*, at Camp Clover Point, Lake of the Ozarks State Park. For more info., call Paul Bauer, H# 921-3972. See related article on page 2.

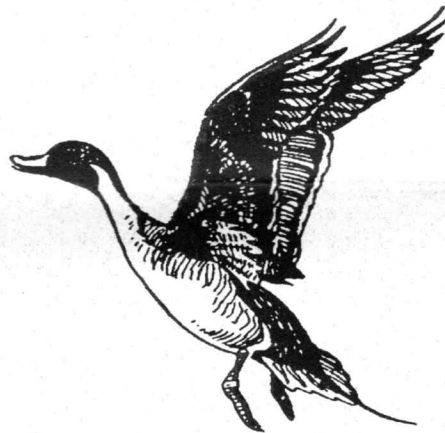
**Missouri Audubon Council Fall Meeting** — *Sunday, September 28*, at Camp Clover Point, Lake of the Ozarks State Park. For more info.,

call Mary Dueren, H# 576-1473. See related article on page 2.

**Resource Center Network Open House** — *Thursday, October 9*, 3 to 5:30 pm, at Powder Valley Nature Center. Education departments of many institutions & organizations present with educational materials. For more info., call Mary Lou Miller, H# 389-3969.

**Audubon All-Member Picnic** — *Sunday, October 19*, 2 to 8 pm, at Shaw Arboretum's Freund Center. For more info., call Jim Holsen, H# 822-0410. See related article on page 1.

**Bird Seed Sale** — *Saturday, October 25*, 10 am to 3 pm, at Wild Bird Center, 9815 Watson Rd. See brief article on page 2 and order form on page 5.



## Special Events

**Operation Clean Stream** — *Saturday, August 23*. Annual trash pickup along the Meramec River, sponsored by Open Space Council & Monsanto. St. Louis Audubon has its own stretch of river for which we are responsible. To obtain more info. & to sign up, call Jerry Castillon, H# 391-7586, or Arthur Montgomery, H# 822-1215. See related article on page 2.

**Monarch Tagging** — *September (specific date to be determined)*. Depending on weather & flow of monarchs, George Winkler will lead monarch tagging trip to Warrenton. If interested, call George at H# 993-1652 so he can inform you of date, hours & place to meet as trip firms up.

**Monsanto EcoFair** — *Saturday, September 6*, (not September 13 as reported in June newsletter) at Monsanto's research facility at 700 Chesterfield Parkway North. St. Louis Audubon will have booth at event. For more info., call Jim Malone, H# 536-1119. See related article on page 5.

**Statewide Butterfly Count** — *Saturday, September 6*. No experience needed; choose from 5 different locations. Call coordinator of site you are interested in to sign up & obtain more info.: **Busch Conservation Area** in St. Charles County--Bill Brandhorst, 965-7269; **Victoria Glade** in Jefferson County--George Winkler, 993-1652; **Valley View Glades** in Jefferson County--Marshall Magner, 961-4588. The following sites may have different count date; please call for more info.: **Cuivre River State Park** in Lincoln County--Bruce Shuette, 314/528-7247; **Powder Valley Nature Center** in St. Louis County--Doug Jackson, 821-8427.

**Greentree Festival** — *Saturdays & Sundays, September 6 & 7, 13 & 14*, at Kirkwood City Park. St. Louis Audubon will have booth during 1<sup>st</sup> weekend. To obtain more info. or volunteer to work in booth, call Jim Holsen, H# 822-0410. See related article on page 8.

**Prairie Day** — *Saturday, September 20*, at Shaw Arboretum. For more info., call Tammie Yegge at Powder Valley Nature Center, 301-1500.

**Big Rivers Festival** — *Saturday & Sunday, September 20 & 21*, at Louisiana & Clarksville. For more info., call Ken Dalrymple (MO Dept. of Conservation) at 573/898-5905.

**World Bird Sanctuary Open House** — *Saturday & Sunday, October 18 & 19*, 10 am to 5 pm. Place to be announced. For more info., call World Bird Sanctuary at 938-6193.

**Day in the Forest** — *Sunday, October 19*, at Rockwoods Conservation Area. For more info., call Powder Valley Nature Center, 301-1500.

**World Ecology Day** — *Friday, October 24*, 8:30 am to 2 pm, at University of MO-St. Louis. For more info., call Bernadette Dalton at 516-6203.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Statewide Conference on Environmental Education** — *Friday - Sunday, October 24-26*, at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach. Hands-on learning experiences will help educators, youth leaders, naturalists, & other interested individuals to teach about environment. For more info. & registration materials, call MO Dept. of Conservation at 573/751-4115, ext. 370.

# The Conservation Corner

## Environmental News on the Legislative Front

by Bill Groth

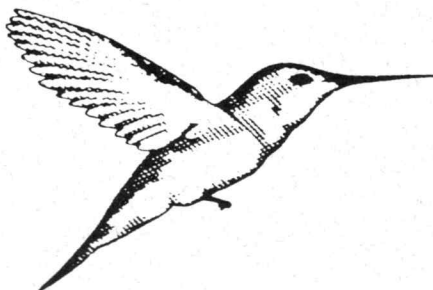
Environmentally, the 1997 Missouri General Legislative session was a mixed bag. One of the best things that can be said is that fewer potentially harmful bills were filed than in recent years. Some high or lowlights include:

- ◆ Missouri is the only state in the nation to have failed to pass legislation establishing an Intended Use Plan to upgrade water treatment plants. Thus, Missouri turned down \$21.7 million in appropriated federal funds.
- ◆ Legislation that would have allowed companies to seal their internal environmental audits from the public failed.
- ◆ There was a small victory addressing local billboard regulations. More is needed, and a petition drive is underway. More details will be provided later.
- ◆ Despite recent disastrous floods, Missouri is the only Midwestern state without a floodplain management plan. A bill passed by the House could not get out of the Senate committee.
- ◆ A tax credit for both substantial rehabilitation of National Register historic buildings and the purchase and installation of pollution abatement equipment for the charcoal industry was lost when the Governor vetoed the bill. While most favored these measures, amendments made this bill unacceptable.
- ◆ The Legislature did authorize the sale of \$30 million in bonds for water pollution projects. Note: This was approved by voters in 1988.
- ◆ Several bills or amendments were introduced preventing state regulations or statutes from being "stricter than federal rules" as well as politics having precedence over science.

On the national level, an item of concern for all Audubon members is the decision to exempt all federal agencies from the Migratory Bird Act's regulations. If this decision stands, look for exemptions from the Endangered Species Act, Clean Air and Water Acts, and all other environmental laws being proposed. National Audubon sent letters to Vice President Gore and Interior Secretary Babbitt urging the Administration to rescind this decision. Letters from individuals carry at least as much weight.

Another issue worthy of a letter is the American Heritage Rivers initiative. It is

designed to promote both river conservation and economic development on the nation's 10 historic rivers. (The Mississippi and Missouri Rivers are potential listees.) Both Missouri's Senators pushed for delays of this program with typical political talk. Letters to Vice President Gore, with copies to our Senators and Congressmen, should help move this voluntary program on.



## Hummingbirds are Returning-- Are You Ready?

by Paul Bauer

Fall migration brings more hummingbirds to our feeders. In the St. Louis area we are likely to see only the ruby-throated hummingbird, both male and female plumages. At this time they are migrating from all parts of eastern North America where they have raised their young. Now they are returning to winter in Central America as far south as Panama, where they will have a guaranteed source of nectar. Sadly, hummingbirds are widely reported to be declining in abundance. Maybe we can help.

**NUMBERS:** A few of us may have large enough flower gardens to have 1 pair of hummers nest nearby. But most of us will see more during the peak migration periods of May and September. Usually, we see very few hummers during the middle of summer because each pair has their own defended breeding territory.

**FEEDER TIMING:** When should a hummingbird feeder be put up and taken down? Put feeders up about April 20 and keep them filled until late May. Some folks do not feed hummers in June and July since they often see very little action and the sugar solution spoils quickly. This is a personal decision since plenty of natural food is available from flowers in the summer.

However, feeding in the fall during migration can be very exciting if several hummers try to dominate a single feeder, and it is quite beneficial to the birds. Put your feeder up in early August and maintain it at least through late October.

Some birders continue feeding into late November, in hopes of attracting a different or rare species that may stray in from the west. Missouri has had valid records of rufous and Anna's hummingbirds. With more people looking, these record sightings are increasing in recent years. However, the sightings of strays require very careful documentation since juvenile and female hummers are often impossible to identify correctly in the field.

Don't worry about feeding them too late into fall. They know when to leave, and in 5 hours they can move 200 miles south to escape a severe cold snap.

**FEEDERS:** Keep it simple; keep it clean. In the past many hummer feeders had an inverted bottle that held the solution which fed into several red plastic flowers with bee guards--too many small parts! Cute, yes, and it worked, but it was nearly impossible to keep cleaned properly so that the birds are not harmed by any dark fungus.

Today, greatly improved feeders exist that have a shallow flat dish with a red-colored, circular cover containing 6 ports for feeding. Some have perches at each port as part of the cover. Since the entire top is red, there is no need to color the sugar solution (which can harm the birds). The top cover lifts off for very easy cleaning since there are only 2 parts.

These feeders hang up with a central hook that usually includes an ant trap. The ant trap is a small cup at the base of the hanger, which can be filled with water to prevent ants from crawling to the sugar solution. I save a used toothbrush for cleaning these feeders. Before winter storage, cleaning and soaking the feeders in a weak Clorox-type solution is suggested.

**FEEDING SOLUTION:** The recommended sugar solution is 1 part sugar and 4 parts water. Usually, I use ½ cup of sugar and 2 cups of water, mixed and heated in a small pan until it boils. Do not add any color to the solution. Never use a non-sugar sweetener; the hummingbirds need the calories, even if we don't! After cooling, this solution is stored in a small jar in the refrigerator. The feeder I prefer has a smaller diameter dish that requires only 1 cup of solution to fill. In hot weather the solution must be changed every 3 or 4 days, so my mix of 2 cups will last about 1 week. When the solution gets cloudy, it is starting to spoil. Clean the feeder and refill.

**FINAL THOUGHTS:** Hummingbirds may get numerous and aggressive at 1 feeder in September. If more than 1 feeder is used, they can be hung on opposite sides of the yard to reduce some of this aggression. Our feeders are located where it is shaded in the afternoon to slow down solution spoilage in hot weather. About ½ hour before sundown, our feeders become most active. Maybe this is the hummers' last good meal before bedtime! Get your feeder ready, sit back, and enjoy the fun.

# The St. Louis Audubon Society Bird Seed Sale

Saturday, October 25, 10 am to 3 pm  
Wild Bird Center  
9815 Watson Road (Watson Center) Crestwood

The St. Louis Audubon Society is again conducting a bird seed sale to benefit the chapter's conservation and education programs. Get your supply of bird seed from St. Louis Audubon--encourage your friends, neighbors, and relatives to make orders, also.

This year 4 different seed types are available: 25-lb. and 50-lb. bags of black oil-type sunflower seed, 25-lb. and 50-lb. bags of premium mix bird seed, 10-lb. bags of thistle/niger seed, and 25-lb. and 50-lb. bags of safflower seed.

To order, please complete the order form below. **You will need to pick up your bird seed on October 25 at the Wild Bird Center between 10 am and 3 pm, or your seed will be forfeited and resold.** One week prior to the sale, a postcard will be sent to you to verify that your order and check were received and to remind you of the pick-up place and time.

If you have any questions, please call Dianne Johnson (H# 458-4369), Sue Smith (H# 256-7986), or Sue Jones (H# 721-0819). **Your order and check must be received by October 18.** Checks will not be cashed until after the pick-up date.

(Please detach here; mail bottom portion along with your check.)

## BIRD SEED ORDER FORM

(Please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (eve) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



|                                 |       |            |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|------------|-------|
| # of 25-lb. bags sunflower seed | _____ | X \$8 @ =  | _____ |
| # of 50-lb. bags sunflower seed | _____ | X \$14 @ = | _____ |
| # of 25-lb. bags premium mix    | _____ | X \$8 @ =  | _____ |
| # of 50-lb. bags premium mix    | _____ | X \$14 @ = | _____ |
| # of 10-lb. bags thistle/niger  | _____ | X \$13 @ = | _____ |
| # of 25-lb. bags safflower      | _____ | X \$13 @ = | _____ |
| # of 50-lb. bags safflower      | _____ | X \$24 @ = | _____ |



**(Mail early to ensure  
receipt of order by  
October 18--THANKS!)**

Total Amount (check enclosed) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail order & check to: **Bird Seed  
Sue Jones  
7425 Parkdale Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63105**

Please make checks payable to:  
**St. Louis Audubon Society**

### Monsanto EcoFair has Something for Everyone

by Jim Malone

Last fall, volunteers at Monsanto's Chesterfield Village site introduced employees and the surrounding community to sustainable, ecologically friendly goods and services available in the St. Louis area. This 1<sup>st</sup> Monsanto EcoFair was a great success, with more than 50 vendors and over 800 people in attendance.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual EcoFair will be held this year on **September 6** (not September 13, as reported in the last *Tale Feathers* edition)

from 10 am to 4 pm and promises to have something for everyone. The World Bird Sanctuary will have live flight shows and demonstrations at 11 am and 1 pm, and the Gateway Sled Dog Club will exhibit a form of pollution-free transportation you might not expect in the Midwest.

Lots of information will be available from local groups like Sustainable St. Louis, Forest Park Forever, Recycling Enterprises, Environmental Molding, the Missouri Department of Conservation, BFI Recycling, Chesterfield Citizens for the Environment, and many more.

A clothing drive will be included in the

EcoFair for the St. Patrick Center, so clean out those closets and bring along any clothing you can spare to donate to someone less fortunate. Local Boy and Girl Scout troops will be selling food and drinks.

To get to the Monsanto EcoFair, take Highway 40 west to the 1<sup>st</sup> Chesterfield Parkway exit and turn right. Follow Chesterfield Parkway across Olive Road and turn right at the 2<sup>nd</sup> stoplight past Olive. This is the entrance to Monsanto's Chesterfield Village site. Admission is free, and everyone is welcome, so bring the family and enjoy an entertaining, educational day! For further information about the fair, call Jim Malone at H# 536-1119.



## The Education Corner

### 1997 BIRDATHON a Success

by Paul Bauer

How many birds can you find in 24 hours in early May? This is the challenge that several Audubon members took on. But that is only half of the story. Also required is asking friends and family to support your efforts with a donation based on the number of bird species seen by your team. That donation helps fund Audubon conservation and education activities.

This year we had 8 teams in the field--a new record. Also the total amount of funds raised was \$1,137.58. This also was a new record for our BIRDATHONS, which we will, of course, try to top next year.

We want to thank everyone of you who contributed support to our teams. And, of course, our sincere thanks to the team leaders for their hard work and excellent birding efforts:

Paul Bauer  
Mary Dueren  
Sara Lenoe  
Jim Malone

Mary Lou Miller  
Chris Serbia  
Blaine Ulmer  
Linda Virga

Now, for the rest of the story!! So how many birds can you see in 1 day in May? I don't know the composite total for all 8 groups. However, the Jim Malone group found 158 species, a new personal record. And believe it or not, Paul Bauer was part of a team that also got 158 species, which was also a new record for us. It was truly a record-breaking year for our BIRDATHON from all viewpoints. Congratulations!

## Order Audubon Adventures Now!

**Audubon Adventures**, National Audubon's environmental education newspaper for elementary school classes and other groups of children in grades 3 through 6, can be used for regular classes, Girl and Boy Scout groups, and other organizations. For more information and a sample copy of **Audubon Adventures**, call Mary Dueren, H# 576-1473. Ordering **deadline** for the 1997-98 school year is **September 30**.

### AUDUBON ADVENTURES SUBSCRIPTION FORM

School Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_ New Teacher (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a subscription renewal? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check of \$35 payable to **National Audubon Society** and mail with this form to Mary Dueren, 1701 Rathford Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146.

## Good Birding Locations for Fall

by Paul Bauer

This article is the first of a series that will suggest good locations to go birding in the St. Louis area for each season. St. Louis Audubon will continue to offer more than 15 escorted local birding trips for groups to enjoy each year. These escorted local trips usually visit the best places at the optimum time.

But what if you can't attend a scheduled trip on a specific date? Or what if you want to go birding more often than our scheduled trips? These articles should provide additional ideas for each season. Ideas have been selected from among the 120 local birding locations described in a useful book *BIRDS OF THE ST. LOUIS AREA; Where and When to Find Them*. If you don't have a personal copy, check nature-type stores, feed stores, and local bookstores and also the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Zoo bookstores.

Also listen to the Webster Groves Nature Study Society (WGNSS) Nature Line to hear recent reports on locations for the best bird sightings--phone 935-8432. This report is usually updated weekly, and more often during peak migration periods.

**SCHEDULE:** In August and September the big news is **SHOREBIRDS**, which continue to drift through into late November. Later in the fall **WATERFOWL** come in massive numbers. Some linger until winter. **LANDBIRDS**, including most neotropical migrants, are also migrating through our forests from late August through October. Many are returning to Central and South America to feed on insects that do not survive here during our winter.

**SHOREBIRDS:** Viewing usually is more enjoyable if you have a spotting scope and steady tripod; 30 to 40 power is often enough. Find mudflats and you may find shorebirds; the quality of habitat often varies quickly with the water level, from too deep to too dry. Fall locations to consider:

1. Riverlands Area — Heron Pond, pond east of Teal Pond, and any islands in main pool of Ellis Bay. Light is best late in day.
2. Horseshoe Lake State Park — From the Highway 111 entrance, the pool south of the causeway is drawn down in early August to seed the area for fall duck hunting. This can often attract large numbers of shorebirds.
3. Marais Temps Clair — Pools 3 and 4 may be best if not too dry. For other more current ideas, call the WGNSS Nature Line or see **WATERFOWL** locations below.

**WATERFOWL:** Again viewing enjoyment is enhanced using a spotting scope; find a friend who has one! This gets better when the weather gets colder and forces the birds south from more northern frozen areas. The most rare birds tend to come in late. Consider the Riverlands Area, Horseshoe Lake, Busch

Conservation Area (Lakes 33, 34, and 35), and Marais Temps Clair before duck hunting season starts. For longer trips consider Carlyle Lake, Baldwin Lake, Mark Twain NWR, and Winfield Dam.

**LANDBIRD MIGRANTS:** Only binoculars are needed, but warblers in fall plumage may cause you to use your field guide. Since few birds are singing, finding them is a good challenge. Consider the northwest quadrant of Tower Grove Park, Forest Park-Kennedy Forest (excellent with all new trails), Busch Conservation Area, and Spanish Lake Park (use 3<sup>rd</sup> entrance to Sunfish and North Lakes). For longer trips, consider Pere Marquette State Park and the Shaw Arboretum.

## The Magic of Mingo

by Paul Bauer

Our Audubon spring weekend trip to Mingo National Wildlife Refuge and to Duck Creek Conservation Area in southeast Missouri lived up to our expectations. In 10 trips to Mingo, I have never been disappointed. In spite of dire rain predictions, we had a group of 34 who came for the weekend.

We started birding on the mile-long boardwalk through the swamp about 8 am. Since the group was so large, we split into 3 small groups with leaders and headed off in different directions. In this way everyone had a better chance to see the warblers and other migrants that were found. This bottomland swamp is always full of surprises.

Next, we moved west and surveyed marsh habitat for a number of shorebirds at close range and several waterfowl and herons, including extended views of a yellow-crowned night heron,

at point blank range. Farther west, we explored more trails in the extensive swamp. Here the road passes between a bottomland forest on 1 side with trees standing in water, and on the other side we viewed a moss- and fern-covered bluff and upland forest. These areas were rich with birds, but such is the magic of Mingo!

This good birding had taken more time than planned. For this weekend we had to skip driving up the Mingo River into the heart of the 8,000-acre wilderness area, and we also skipped a long walk into another shorebird



area. But the refuge manager had provided our group a special key that allowed access around the entire edge of the refuge. This road gave us great views from overlooking bluffs to direct observations into the extensive Monopoly Marsh. This road was a new experience for me and gave all of us a unique chance to look directly **down** into the nest of a pair of bald eagles with 1 young bird in the nest. We set up a good spotting scope, and everyone enjoyed this treat at 40 to 60 power. That was a thrilling experience!

By now it was lunch time, which we enjoyed near a second overlook. The road

continued around the entire refuge to more marsh and shorebird habitat and through much more bottomland forest to the exit.

Since it was only mid-afternoon, we next decided to explore Duck Creek, which is directly east of Mingo. Again there were more surprises, including 2 species of terns and another nest of bald eagles far out into the lake (which is the size of Forest Park!). We also found numerous warblers and other forest birds all along the edge around the lake. By now many folks were becoming tired. Conveniently, a gentle rain started about 5:20 pm, and the group voted that it was all right to stop "early" and go to dinner. No, those bad rain predictions did not harm our fun!

*(If this trip sounds exciting to you, please read more about the upcoming October weekend trip to Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge--page 1.)*

## 1997-98 Birding Trips *from page 1*

Our fall weekend trip to Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge in central Illinois should be an exciting outing giving participants a first-hand view of the spectacle of waterfowl migration in the Mississippi Flyway. (For further information on this trip, see article on page 1.)

The complete Audubon activities calendar for 1997-98 is included in this *Tale Feathers* issue, containing complete details of the birding outings planned for the upcoming year. Be certain to save it! The first 4 birding trips of the new calendar are listed in the Upcoming Events (page 3) of this newsletter.

## ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check the membership category desired: ☐ New ☐ Renewal  
☐ Introductory/\$20 ☐ Individual/\$35 ☐ Family/\$40  
☐ Sustaining/\$50 ☐ Supporting/\$100 ☐ Sr. Citizen/\$21  
☐ Sr. Citizen Family/\$23

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Send application to:  
 Mrs. Katherine Chambers, Membership Chairman  
 St. Louis Audubon Society 7XCH8  
 7024 Forsyth  
 St. Louis, MO 63105

Make membership checks payable to:  
**National Audubon Society**  
 If you wish to make a donation to the local chapter, please write a separate check to:  
 St. Louis Audubon Society

## Officers 1997-98

|                   |                 |          |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Jim Holsen        | President       | 822-0410 |
| Chris Serbia      | VP-Education    | 207-0451 |
| Bill Groth, Jr.   | VP-Conservation | 843-7440 |
| Arthur Montgomery | VP-Finance      | 822-1215 |
| Mary Lou Miller   | Treasurer       | 389-3969 |
| Mary Dueren       | Secretary       | 576-1473 |

## Board of Directors

|                  |                             |              |
|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Mike Arduser     |                             | 968-8479     |
| Christy Beckmann | MO Environmental Fund       | 822-2428     |
| Bill Brandhorst  | Wildlife Mountings          | 965-7269     |
| Lynne Breakstone |                             | 726-4772     |
| Jerry Castillon  | Operation Clean Stream      | 391-7586     |
| Dallas Cox       |                             | 878-1080     |
| Tom Day          | Annual Dinner/Meeting       | 962-4064     |
| Susanne Greenlee | Butterfly Count Coordinator | 727-6044     |
| Dianne Johnson   |                             | 458-4369     |
| Sara Lenoe       |                             | 351-4565     |
| Jim Malone       | Birding                     | 536-1119     |
| Edward Ortleb    |                             | 351-0966     |
| Dale Ponce       |                             | 394-6011     |
| Rex Schmidt      |                             | 861-2173     |
| Sue Smith        | Programs                    | 256-7986     |
| John Solodar     |                             | 862-5294     |
| Dannia Stevens   |                             | 618/451-1255 |
| Julie Wells      | Awards & Scholarships       | 962-2093     |

## Other Chairpeople/Coordinators

|                    |                              |          |
|--------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| Paul Bauer         | Birding                      | 921-3972 |
| Katherine Chambers | Membership                   | 863-9346 |
|                    | Newsletter Mailing           |          |
| Sue Jones          | Bird Seed Sale Committee     | 721-0819 |
| LaVerne Koyne      | Message Center Phone Line    | 878-9125 |
| Dorothy Mill       | Community Club Awards        | 966-6163 |
| Jerry Miller       | Investment Committee         | 389-3969 |
| Janice Patton      | Print Library                | 921-4875 |
| Karen Turner       | Resource Center Network Rep. | 771-6814 |
|                    | SLEEN Representative         |          |
| Dave Tylka         | Strategic Planning Committee | 984-7712 |

## Our Phone Number

To contact the St. Louis Audubon Society, please call 314/822-6595.

## Visit Audubon's Booth at the Greentree Festival

St. Louis Audubon will maintain an information booth during the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of the annual Greentree Festival in the Kirkwood City Park, Saturday, September 6, and Sunday, September 7. The park is near Geyer and Adams in Kirkwood.

If you are attending the festival, stop by the Audubon booth to exchange greetings. If you can help at the booth on either day, please call Jim Holsen at H# 822-0410. Help us tell others what Audubon is doing to help protect birds, other wildlife, and wildlife habitat.

## Interested in Composting Information?

Check the following on the Internet:

<http://net.indra.com/~topsoil/compost-menu.htm1>  
<http://www.oldgrowth.org/compost/home.htm1>  
<http://www.recycle.net/recycle/organic/index.htm1>

## Newsletter Information

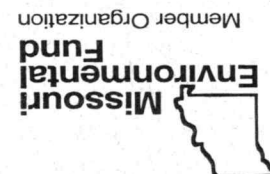
The St. Louis Audubon Society's *Tale Feathers* is printed bimonthly on recycled paper with soy ink and produced by Dolde Printing Co., 1350 Lonedell Rd., Arnold, MO 63010.

Please send any article submissions for the next edition by **September 19, 1997** to Karen Tylka, 3155 Frisco Hill Rd., Imperial, MO 63052 (H# 942-3142).



ST LOUIS  
9843 MEADOW FERN  
MRS MARTIN W DIETRICH  
MAY 97  
NOV  
63126-2417

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ST. LOUIS, MO  
PERMIT NO. 5128



3927 Lucas & Hunt Road  
St. Louis, Missouri 63121

**St. Louis Audubon Society**





# St. Louis Audubon Society



## FALL 1997 - SPRING 1998

### SEPTEMBER 1997

| Sun              | Mon    | Tue    | Wed | Thu | Fri       | Sat                 |
|------------------|--------|--------|-----|-----|-----------|---------------------|
|                  | 1<br>H | 2<br>B | 3   | 4   | 5         | 6 BC<br>GTF<br>MF   |
| 7<br>BT<br>GTF   | 8      | 9      | 10  | 11  | 12        | 13<br>GTF           |
| 14<br>GTF        | 15     | 16     | 17  | 18  | 19<br>N   | 20 PD<br>MEF<br>BRF |
| 21<br>BRF        | 22     | 23     | 24  | 25  | 26<br>ASM | 27<br>BT<br>ASM     |
| 28<br>MAC<br>ASM | 28     | 30     |     |     |           |                     |

### OCTOBER 1997

| Sun               | Mon     | Tue    | Wed | Thu      | Fri       | Sat            |
|-------------------|---------|--------|-----|----------|-----------|----------------|
|                   |         |        | 1   | 2        | 3         | 4              |
| 5<br>BT           | 6       | 7<br>B | 8   | 9<br>RCN | 10        | 11             |
| 12                | 13<br>H | 14     | 15  | 16       | 17        | 18<br>WBS      |
| 19 P<br>WBS<br>DF | 20      | 21     | 22  | 23       | 24<br>WE  | 25<br>BS<br>BT |
| 26<br>BT          | 27      | 28     | 29  | 30       | 31<br>ARC |                |

### NOVEMBER 1997

| Sun            | Mon | Tue     | Wed | Thu     | Fri | Sat      |
|----------------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|----------|
|                |     |         |     |         |     | 1<br>ARC |
| 2<br>BT<br>ARC | 3   | 4<br>B  | 5   | 6       | 7   | 8        |
| 9              | 10  | 11<br>H | 12  | 13      | 14  | 15       |
| 16             | 17  | 18      | 19  | 20      | 21  | 22<br>BT |
| 23<br>30       | 24  | 25      | 26  | 27<br>H | 28  | 29       |

### DECEMBER 1997

| Sun            | Mon    | Tue    | Wed | Thu     | Fri | Sat      |
|----------------|--------|--------|-----|---------|-----|----------|
|                | 1<br>N | 2<br>B | 3   | 4       | 5   | 6<br>MEF |
| 7<br>BT<br>HOH | 8      | 9      | 10  | 11      | 12  | 13       |
| 14             | 15     | 16     | 17  | 18      | 19  | 20       |
| 21             | 22     | 23     | 24  | 25<br>H | 26  | 27       |
|                | 28     | 30     | 31  |         |     |          |

### JANUARY 1998

| Sun      | Mon     | Tue    | Wed | Thu    | Fri     | Sat      |
|----------|---------|--------|-----|--------|---------|----------|
|          |         |        |     | 1<br>H | 2       | 3        |
| 4        | 5       | 6<br>B | 7   | 8      | 9       | 10<br>BT |
| 11       | 12      | 13     | 14  | 15     | 16      | 17<br>MS |
| 18<br>MS | 19<br>H | 20     | 21  | 22     | 23<br>N | 24<br>ED |
| 25<br>ED | 26      | 27     | 28  | 29     | 30      | 31<br>MS |

### FEBRUARY 1998

| Sun     | Mon     | Tue    | Wed | Thu | Fri      | Sat     |
|---------|---------|--------|-----|-----|----------|---------|
| 1<br>MS | 2       | 3<br>B | 4   | 5   | 6        | 7       |
| 8       | 9       | 10     | 11  | 12  | 13<br>GM | 14<br>H |
| 15      | 16<br>H | 17     | 18  | 19  | 20       | 21      |
| 22      | 23      | 24     | 25  | 26  | 27       | 28      |
|         |         |        |     |     |          |         |

### MARCH 1998

| Sun       | Mon | Tue     | Wed | Thu | Fri            | Sat             |
|-----------|-----|---------|-----|-----|----------------|-----------------|
| 1         | 2   | 3<br>B  | 4   | 5   | 6              | 7               |
| 8<br>BT   | 9   | 10      | 11  | 12  | 13<br>ARC      | 14<br>WK<br>ARC |
| 15<br>ARC | 16  | 17<br>H | 18  | 19  | 20<br>N<br>PRT | 21<br>ED<br>PRT |
| 22<br>PRT | 23  | 24      | 25  | 26  | 27             | 28<br>BT        |
| 29        | 30  | 31      |     |     |                |                 |

### APRIL 1998 - BIRDATHON MONTH

| Sun              | Mon | Tue    | Wed | Thu      | Fri       | Sat       |
|------------------|-----|--------|-----|----------|-----------|-----------|
|                  |     |        | 1   | 2        | 3         | 4         |
| 5                | 6   | 7<br>B | 8   | 9        | 10<br>H   | 11        |
| 12<br>H          | 13  | 14     | 15  | 16       | 17        | 18<br>BT  |
| 19<br>WS         | 20  | 21     | 22  | 23<br>AD | 24<br>ASM | 25<br>ASM |
| 26<br>ASM<br>MAC | 27  | 28     | 29  | 30       |           |           |

### MAY 1998 - BIRDATHON MONTH

| Sun            | Mon     | Tue    | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat                   |
|----------------|---------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------|
|                |         |        |     |     | 1   | 2<br>BT               |
| 3<br>BT<br>IMB | 4<br>←  | 5<br>B | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9<br>BD<br>IMB<br>NAB |
| 10<br>BT       | 11      | 12     | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16 BT<br>BC<br>EDF    |
| 17<br>EDF      | 18      | 19     | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23<br>BT              |
| 24<br>31       | 25<br>H | 26     | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30                    |

- AD - Annual Dinner
- ARC - Audubon Regional Conference
- ASM - Audubon Society of Missouri
- B - Board Meeting
- BC - Butterfly Count
- BD - Birding Big Day
- BRF - Big Rivers Festival
- BS - Bird Seed Sale
- BT - Bird Trip
- DF - Day In The Forest

- ED - Eagle Days
- EDF - Earth Day Festival
- GM - General Meeting
- GTF - Greentree Festival
- H - Holiday
- HOH - Holiday Open House
- IMB - Int'l. Migratory Bird Week & Day
- MAC - Missouri Audubon Council
- MEF - Missouri Environmental Fund
- MF - Monsanto Eco-Fair

- MS - Masters of the Sky
- N - Newsletter Deadline
- NAB - North American Bird Count
- P - Audubon All Member Picnic
- PD - Prairie Day
- PRT - Platte River Trip
- RCN - Resource Center Network
- WBS - World Bird Sanctuary Open House
- WE - World Ecology Day
- WK - Wetlands for Kids
- WS - Wings of Spring



## St. Louis Audubon

### Fall 1997 - Spring 1998 Calendar

ALL DETAILS ON THIS CALENDAR ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.  
PLEASE CALL OR CHECK NEWSLETTER FOR LATEST INFO.

#### GENERAL MEETINGS

STLAS Board of Directors' Meeting - First Tuesday of each month except July. Powder Valley Nature Center. Please call Jim Holson for information, H-822-0410.

Calendar Planning: - Tuesday, July 7, 1998 - 7:30 p.m. at Audubon office, 325 North Kirkwood.

#### NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

All articles should be turned in to our Editor, Karen Tylka H-942-3142, by these dates.

| Date   | Day of Week | Time      | Place                       |
|--------|-------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Sep 7  | Sunday      | 8:00 a.m. | Tower Grove Park            |
| Sep 27 | Saturday    | 8:00 a.m. | Riverlands                  |
| Oct 5* | Sunday      | 8:00 a.m. | Horseshoe Lake/Carlyle Lake |

#### BIRDING TRIPS

Meet at the designated site. Most trips end by noon. Bring binoculars and bird book. Dress for field conditions/season. Coaching and instruction for all levels. See sidebar for directions. Questions or to confirm - Call Paul Bauer - H-921-3972, or Call Jim Malone - H-536-1119.

| Date    | Day of Week     | Time      | Place                       |
|---------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Sep 7   | Sunday          | 8:00 a.m. | Tower Grove Park            |
| Sep 27  | Saturday        | 8:00 a.m. | Riverlands                  |
| Oct 5*  | Sunday          | 8:00 a.m. | Horseshoe Lake/Carlyle Lake |
| Oct 25* | Saturday/Sunday | 8:00 a.m. | Chautauqua NWR              |
| Nov 2   | Sunday          | 8:00 a.m. | Busch Cons. Area            |
| Nov 22  | Saturday        | 8:00 a.m. | Riverlands                  |
| Dec 7   | Sunday          | 9:00 a.m. | Horseshoe Lake              |
| Jan 10  | Saturday        | 9:00 a.m. | Riverlands                  |
| Mar 8   | Sunday          | 9:00 a.m. | Busch Cons. Area            |
| Mar 28  | Saturday        | 8:00 a.m. | Riverlands                  |
| Apr 18* | Saturday        | 6:30 p.m. | Busch Cons. Area            |
| May 2   | Saturday        | 8:00 a.m. | Arboretum - Fee \$3         |
| May 3   | Sunday          | 8:00 a.m. | Forest Park                 |
| May 10  | Sunday          | 8:00 a.m. | Forest Park                 |
| May 16* | Saturday        | 8:00 a.m. | Eagle Bluffs                |
| May 23  | Saturday        | 8:00 a.m. | Castlewood State Park       |

#### \*SPECIAL FIELD TRIPS

#### PLEASE REFER TO NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULED FIELD TRIPS.

Oct. 5, 1997 - 8:00 a.m. - Horseshoe Lake/Carlyle Lake (meet at Horseshoe Lake, car pool to Carlyle Lake)  
Oct. 25-26, 1997 - 8:00 a.m. - Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge  
Apr. 18, 1998 - 6:30 p.m. - Busch Cons. Area - Leader Jim Malone - Woodcock/Owl Prowl - Bring flashlight, boots, and dress for weather.  
May 16, 1998 - 8:00 a.m. - Day Field Trip to Eagle Bluffs, near Jefferson City.

#### WATCH FOR DECEMBER NEWSLETTER WITH INFORMATION ON THE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT.

Fall & Spring Membership Meetings to be announced. See newsletters or phone Jim Holson 822-0410 for details.

#### OTHER ACTIVITIES

Resource Center Network Meeting - August 20, 1997 - Call Mary Lou Miller H-389-3969 for details.

Operation Clean Stream - August 23, 1997. 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Call Jerry Castillon 391-7586.

Greentree Festival - September 6 & 7, 13 & 14, 1997. Kirkwood City Park. Call Jim Holson - H-822-0410 for details. Audubon will have a booth the 6th and 7th.

Fifth Annual Missouri Butterfly Count - September 6, 1997, 9:30 a.m. Call Susanne Greenlee B-968-1105 for information.

Monsanto Eco-Fair - September 6, 1997 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - 700 Chesterfield Parkway North, Chesterfield, Missouri. Call Jim Malone for info H-536-1119.

Missouri Environmental Fund - September 20, 1997 & December 6, 1997; Call Jerry Klamon for info - B-771-6668.

Prairie Day - Shaw Arboretum - September 20, 1997 - Call Tammie Yegge at Powder Valley Nature Center - B-301-1500 for information.

Big Rivers Festival - Louisiana & Clarksville, MO, September 20 & 21, 1997 Call MO Dept. of Cons., Ken Dalrymple B-573-898-5905.

Missouri Audubon Council Fall Meeting, September 28, 1997. Call Jim Holson - H-822-0410.

Audubon Society of Missouri Fall Meeting, Lake of the Ozarks State Park, Camp Clover Point, September 26, 27, & 28, 1997. Call Paul Bauer - H-921-3972.

Resource Center Network Open House - Education Departments of many institutions & organizations will be at Powder Valley Nature Center. October 9, 1997 from 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. Call Mary Lou Miller - H-389-3969.

Audubon All Member Picnic - October 19, 1996 - Shaw Arboretum Freund Center - 2 - 8 p.m. - Call Jim Holson for details. H-822-0410.

World Bird Sanctuary Open House - October 18 & 19, 1997 - 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Call World Bird Sanctuary at 938-6193 for info. Place to be announced.

Day in the Forest - October 19, 1997 - Rockwoods - Call Powder Valley Nature Center for information - 301-1500.

World Ecology Day - October 24, 1997 - University of MO - St. Louis. 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Call Bernadette Dalton B-516-6203 for information.

Bird Seed Sale - October 25, 1997 - Wild Bird Center - 9815 Watson Road, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. See order form in newsletter. Contact Sue Jones - H-721-0819 for information.

West Central Regional Conference - October 31 - November 2, 1997, Springfield, Missouri. Call Jim Holson for info H-822-0410.

Holiday Open House with WGNSS - December 7, 1997 - 1 - 4 p.m. - Tyson Research Center - Call Jim Holson for details - 822-0410.

Masters of the Sky - American Bald Eagle - January 17 & 18, 1998, Clarksville; January 31 & February 1, 1998, Alton; - Corps of Engineers, - Call Riverlands Office - Julie Ziino B-899-2600 for information.

Eagle Days at Clarksville - MDC/Audubon - AppleShed, Clarksville, MO. January 24 - 25, 1998 - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. We will have a booth and help Conservation Department with their program.

Joint General Membership Meeting STLAS & WGNSS - February 13, 1998, 8 p.m. - St. Louis County Library HQ (Tentative), Clayton & Lindbergh Blvd. - Program to be announced.

Wetlands for Kids - March 14, 1998 - Busch Conservation Area - Call Jim Garr B-441-4554 for details. We will have a booth at this event.

National Audubon Society West Central Regional River Conference - Kearney, NE - March 13-15, 1998. Call Jim Holson for info H-822-0410.

Platte River Trip (Audubon Sponsored) - Kearney, NE - March 20, 21 & 22, 1998. Watch for details in newsletter.

World Bird Sanctuary - Eagle Days - Lone Elk County Park - March 21, 1998.

Wings of Spring - Corps of Engineers - Riverlands - April 19, 1998. We will have a booth. Call Julie Ziino B-899-2600 for information.

STLAS Annual Dinner & Meeting - April 23, 1998 - 6:30 p.m. Watch newsletter for details or call Tom Day H-962-4064 for information.

Missouri Audubon Council Spring Meeting, April 26, 1998. Call Jim Holson - H-822-0410.

Audubon Society of Missouri Spring Meeting, April 24, 25, & 26, 1998. Call Paul Bauer - H-921-3972.

Birding Big Day - Saturday, May 9, 1998 - Paul Bauer H-921-3972.

International Migratory Bird Celebration - May 2 - May 10, 1998. Watch for activities brochure in newsletter. Call Mary Lou Miller - H-389-399 for information.

Birdathon - April and May 1998 - watch for details in newsletter.

No. American Bird Migration Count - May 9, 1998 - Call Blaine Ulmer H-966-5425 or Paul Bauer H-921-3972.

Earth Day Festival - May 16 & 17, 1998. Watch for details in newsletter.

Butterfly Count - May 16 and June 20, 1998 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Tentative - Call Susanne Greenlee for details - B-968-1105.

#### St. Louis Audubon Message Center 822-6595

|                     |                   |            |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------|
| President           | Jim Holson        | H-822-0410 |
| VP for Education    |                   |            |
| VP for Conservation | Bill Groth, Jr.   | H-843-7440 |
| VP for Finance      | Arthur Montgomery | H-822-1215 |
| Treasurer           | Mary Lou Miller   | H-389-3969 |
| Secretary           | Mary Dueren       | H-576-1473 |

#### GETTING TO EVENTS

**Powder Valley Nature Center:** East on I-44 from I-270, ½ mile to Watson Rd. Exit. Turn left first traffic light onto Geyer Rd. Go ¼ mile and turn left on Cragwood Rd. Go 1 ½ miles. Entrance is on right.

**Busch Conservation Area:** In St. Charles Co., Hwy 94 south of US 40, 1 mile to a right on Hwy D. Go 1.5 miles. Entrance on right. Pass through gate to Hampton Lake parking lot on left.

**Tyson Research Center:** I-44 west of I-270, 7 miles to the Beaumont and Antire Rd. Exit. The entrance is on the right near the end of the ramp.

**Forest Park:** In St. Louis City. Park on street behind the Art Museum. Meet at the edge of the woods.

**Arboretum:** I-44 west from I-270 to Gray Summit Exit. South side of Hwy on Outer Rd. (\$3.00/per person fee.)

**Riverlands:** In St. Charles Co. near Alton, IL. Hwy 367 north of I-270, across the Missouri River to right on last road before the Mississippi River. Go east from gas station, turn right on first road to Teal Pond parking lot.

**Horseshoe Lake:** I-55/70 east of St. Louis to north on Hwy 111. Go thru park entrance to HQ Building.

**Tower Grove Park:** In St. Louis City. I-44 or I-64 east to south on Kingshighway. Go ~1 mile to left on Magnolia. Park on street; walk to the brushy area (Gaddy Bird Garden) at the northwest corner of the park.

**Castlewood State Park:** Take Big Bend West from I-270 for about 6 miles; turn left on Ries Road; continue to park entrance; park in lot on right just before stream.